

Exiles Tell of Missiles Hidden in Cuba Caves

Refugees Give Location of 7 Camouflaged Sites for Rockets

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Soviet missiles in Cuba have been placed in seven caves and other underground installations in sufficient number to destroy half the American continent since the Kennedy-Khrushchev agreement to dismantle the open missile sites, a Cuban exile leader said today.

Fernando Garcia Chacon, 28, a refugee lawyer from Havana, said the underground sites are located in these heavily guarded areas of Cuba:

1. At Hershey in the province of Havana.

2. Near Victoria in the Valley of Yumuri, Matanzas Province.

3. In the hills of Penon, Camaguey Province.

4. In the Sierra de Cubitas, also in Camaguey Province.

5. In Las Villas Province, north of Cienfuegos.

6. At a location in Oriente Province.

7. In the hills of Pinar del Rio Province of Western Cuba.

Seen by Student

Two of the underground missile sites were reported to have been seen by a daring member of the Directorio Revolucionario Estudiantil (Students Revolutionary Directorate), 23-year-old Luis Fernandez Rocha. Mr. Rocha, who returned to Miami in September after 4½

months working in the Cuban underground, has reported to the DRE that he approached to within 200 yards of the underground sites at the Valle de Yumuri and at Hershey.

Mr. Garcia is an agent of DRE whose job is to maintain liaison with other Latin countries. He is in Washington to report the DRE findings to Organization of American States representatives.

Heavily Camouflaged

An official Defense Department spokesman had no comment when queried about the refugee reports. He would not say whether the Government has any knowledge of the locations of the missiles dismantled by the Russians.

Mr. Garcia said the sites were located in hillsides, were heavily camouflaged to prevent

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aerial photography from detecting them and had metal doors and rail tracks leading inside. He said young Rocha, secretary of DRE, waited for two days until the metal doors were opened but was unable to see what was inside.

Other members of the militant anti-Castro exile group, including Angel Lozano, 28, have talked with laborers, who have been working since February, 1960, to prepare the underground installations.

The sites are both in natural caves, of which Cuba has many, and in man-made excavations in hillsides, according to the exile group.

Mr. Garcia said he has forwarded this information to "our contacts" in the United States Government as well as to the governments of all the Latin American nations. He said he is unable to name the precise location of the underground missile sites, except for the two seen by Mr. Rocha.

(By "our contacts," Mr. Garcia presumably referred to the Central Intelligence Agency, although he declined to say so. The CIA, which masterminded the Bay of Pigs invasion, remains active among Cuban exile groups and is believed to provide financial support for some of them, including DRE.)

"New Soviet Swindle"

However, the student group, which has headquarters in Miami, issued this statement in Spanish:

"The free world is on the verge of being a victim of a new swindle by the Soviet Union. We have in our hands sufficient information that there exist on Cuban territory bases of missiles like the ones that have caused the present crisis and some of even greater range in subterranean installations that cannot be photographed by reconnaissance aircraft.

"The photo planes have localized on Cuban territory nearly 30 launching pads while our information assures us that there are many more missiles in Cuba. The Soviet Union can take out of Cuba and permit the inspection of

Exiles Say Russians Guard Hidden Sites

more than 50 missiles, but there are on Cuban territory sufficient missiles to destroy half the continent.

Big Enough for ICBMs

"Today (November 2) we have received urgent communications from Cuba telling us that some of these missiles have been seen taken to underground installations previously prepared.

Mr. Garcia said some of the underground installations are big enough for Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles of a type not previously mentioned by the Defense Department as being in Cuba. U-2 and low-flying jets procured pictures in Cuba of from eight to 10 launching areas with four launchers each, and it was these pictures that precipitated the naval blockade of the island and the showdown with Premier Khrushchev.

The students, whose organization staged a machinegun raid by sea on a Havana area hotel in September, said there are more nearly 30,000 Russians in Cuba than the 5,000 the United States Government has asserted are there.

Guarded by Russians

The underground sites, according to Mr. Garcia, are strongly guarded by Russians, and no Cubans have been allowed to approach them since the sites were completed.

However, the DRE has had many reports from its operatives inside Cuba indicating the presence of mysterious weapons and many Russian troops.

"They drive through towns with huge, flatbed trucks carrying tarpaulins over the cargo," said Mr. Garcia, "and all the lights in the towns are put out by the authorities when the trucks are passing through."

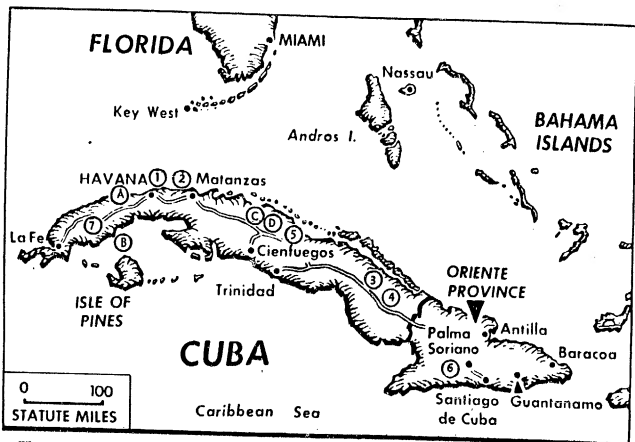
The American reconnaissance planes pin-pointed mobile medium range ballistic missile sites at Guanajay and San Cristobal, in westernmost Cuba, and at Remedios and Sagua La Grande north of Cienfuegos. The Defense Department has confirmed that there is aerial photo evidence these mobile systems are being dismantled.

Mr. Khrushchev agreed to have the missile systems, and presumably their nuclear warheads, dismantled and crated for return to Russia. However, no information has been released by the Defense Department as to what has been done with the missile systems United States planes detected in Cuba.

American planes also detected intermediate range missile sites in the early stages of construction in Cuba. These sites are of the permanent type and were nowhere near ready to fire.

The mobile missile systems have a range of 1,000 nautical miles, well within reach of Washington in less than five minutes, and the intermediates have a range of more than 2,000 nautical miles, able to reach all the United States except Seattle. Both types of missile are threats to large areas of the Western Hemisphere, including the Panama Canal.

So far, there has been no ground inspection of the sites. Mr. Khrushchev agreed to dismantle.



These are the places in Cuba where exiles said Soviet missiles have been placed in caves and underground sites to avoid detection by American planes. (1) Hershey, (2) Yumuri, (3) Penon, (4) Cubitas, (5) Las Villas, (6)

Oriente and (7) Pinar del Rio. The letters locate missile sites detected by United States planes and dismantled by the Russians at (A) Guanajay, (B) San Cristobal, (C) Remedios and (D) Sagua La Grande.